

March 25, 1982

Dr. Robert C. Gallo
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Bethesda, MD. 20205

Dear Bob:

Thanks for your letter. The Retrovirus Study Group keeps a low profile and is only hurled into action if the Chairman aggressively seeks problems (I do not) or if someone brings a problem to its attention. It doesn't seem to me that there is a significant problem in retroviral taxonomy at the moment, though I would hope you will let me know if you think there is an issue involving the new human isolates that we ought to consider.

I appreciate your asking me to visit on the way to Cold Spring Harbor. That will not be a leisurely time of the year for me, so I must decline. However, I may be at NIH on May 3 or 4 (for some discussions of hepatitis B virus) and might well have some time on the afternoon of the 4th. If that is a good time for you, let me know and we can get together informally (assuming I actually go). I would, however, prefer not to give a seminar on that visit; a group discussion would be fine.

With best regards,

Harold E. Varmus, M.D.
Professor

HEV/jm